



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145b)
3437 Airport Way
Suite 206
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4777

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: July 21, 2004
EXPIRATION DATE: August 21, 2004
REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-2003-1329-2
WATERWAY: Tanana River

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Mark Boatwright, Environmental Protection Specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Post Office Box 25520, Juneau, Alaska 99802-5520.

LOCATION: The project is located in the village of Nenana and the Tanana River in sections 13, 23 and 24, T. 4 S., R. 8 W. Latitude 64.5614° North, Longitude 149.0649° West.

WORK: The applicant proposes to discharge approximately 5,500 cubic yards of fill material into the Tanana River during construction of six rock barbs and rootwad revetments. The project would include the discharge of approximately 300 cubic yards of fill into approximately one tenth of an acre of wetlands to improve an existing road and install culverts.

PURPOSE: The Tanana River has eroded portions of the waterfront on the east side of the village of Nenana. Front Street, which runs along the riverbank, has been eroded and is no longer passable. Front Street serves as an alternate access to the health clinic when trains block the main access road. The loss of the Front Street route along the river means that when trains block the main road, sick and injured people do not have access to the health clinic. The proposed road improvement would restore continuous access to the health clinic. The stream barbs are needed to halt the erosion of the river bank and protect the proposed road.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The proposed project will improve approximately one mile of existing community roads (9th and K Streets) and create approximately 0.5 miles of new road. Six rock barbs with rootwad revetments will be constructed along the west bank of the Tanana River.

Rock barbs are stone jetties that extend from the shore out into the river at an upstream angle to slow river erosion. The barbs would rise approximately 2.5 feet above the streambed, extend into the stream approximately 80-140 feet, and angle approximately 25 to 51 degrees upstream. During the construction of the barbs, the river bottom would be excavated to a depth of 5 feet and backfilled with rock to key the stream barb into the river bottom. The intent of the barbs is to

reduce the potential for bank erosion by redirecting the stream flow away from the bank and reducing the sheer stress against the bank during high flow events.

The rock barbs would be constructed one of three ways.

- 1) By constructing a jetty out into the river at low flow. After the jetty is long enough to complete the barb the excavator retreats to shore removing the excess rock as it goes. Some rock may be lost to the river during this process.
- 2) The barbs may be constructed in late fall when the river freezes. The ice would be thickened so trucks and excavators could place the rock through holes in the ice adjacent to the thickened ice platform.
- 3) The stream barb could be constructed using large equipment mounted on barges in the summer.

Rootwad revetments would be constructed on the downstream side of each barb. The length of the revetments would be approximately 60 to 100 feet long. Rootwad revetments would be constructed using trees with a diameter of 12 inches, with a stem length of at least 20 feet and root wad diameter of six feet. They would be placed at an upstream angle and ballast rock would be placed on top for stabilization.

Sheets 1-9 contain specific information and plans for the project.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are three unevaluated properties in the vicinity of the worksite. They have been designated FAI-00436, FAI-01553, and FAI-00442. Because the properties may lie within the project area, a determination of eligibility and, if needed, a determination of effect will be made in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with SHPO. Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area.

Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes

areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts which the proposed activity may have on the public interest requires a careful weighing of all those factors which become relevant in each particular case. The benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Ellen Huber at Ellen.M.Huber@poa02.usace.army.mil or by phone at (907) 474-2166, if further information is desired concerning this notice.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

(X) Perform work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States - Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403).

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF WATER

Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program
401 Certification Program

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

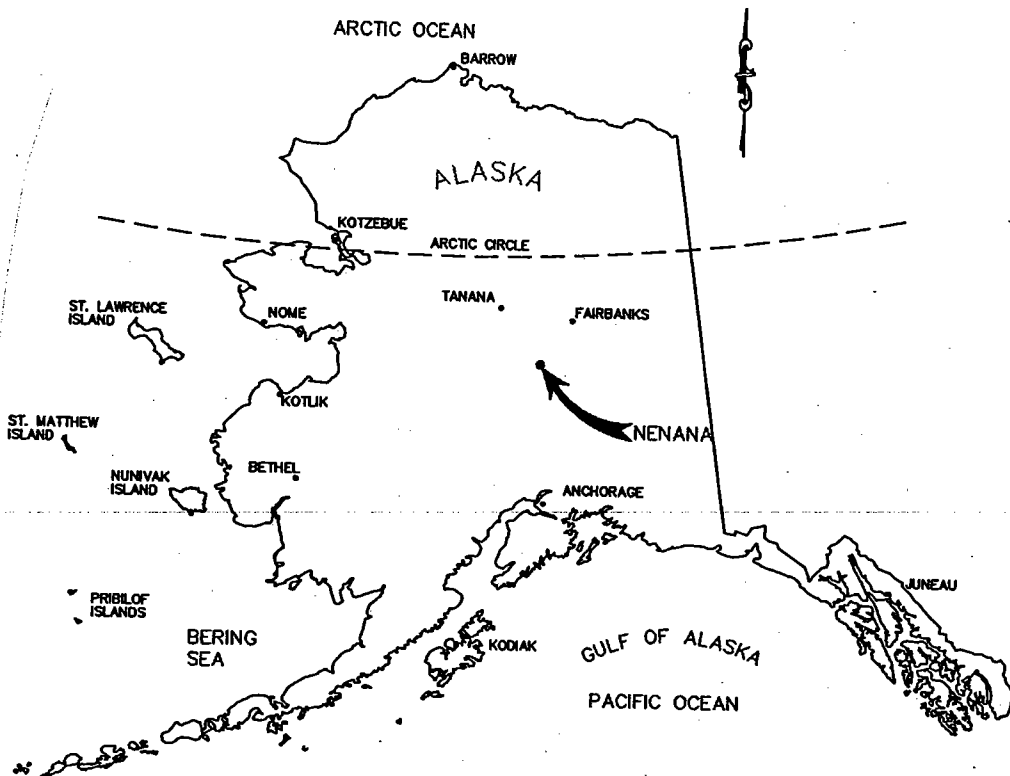
Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

~~Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. **POA-2003-1329-2, Tanana River** serves as application for a short-term variance of State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation, as provided in Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL 95-217).~~

The Department will review the proposed activity to ensure that, except for an allowed, short-term variance, any discharge to waters of the United States resulting from the referenced project will comply with the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation
WQM/401 Certification
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617
Telephone: (907) 269-7564
FAX: (907) 269-7508

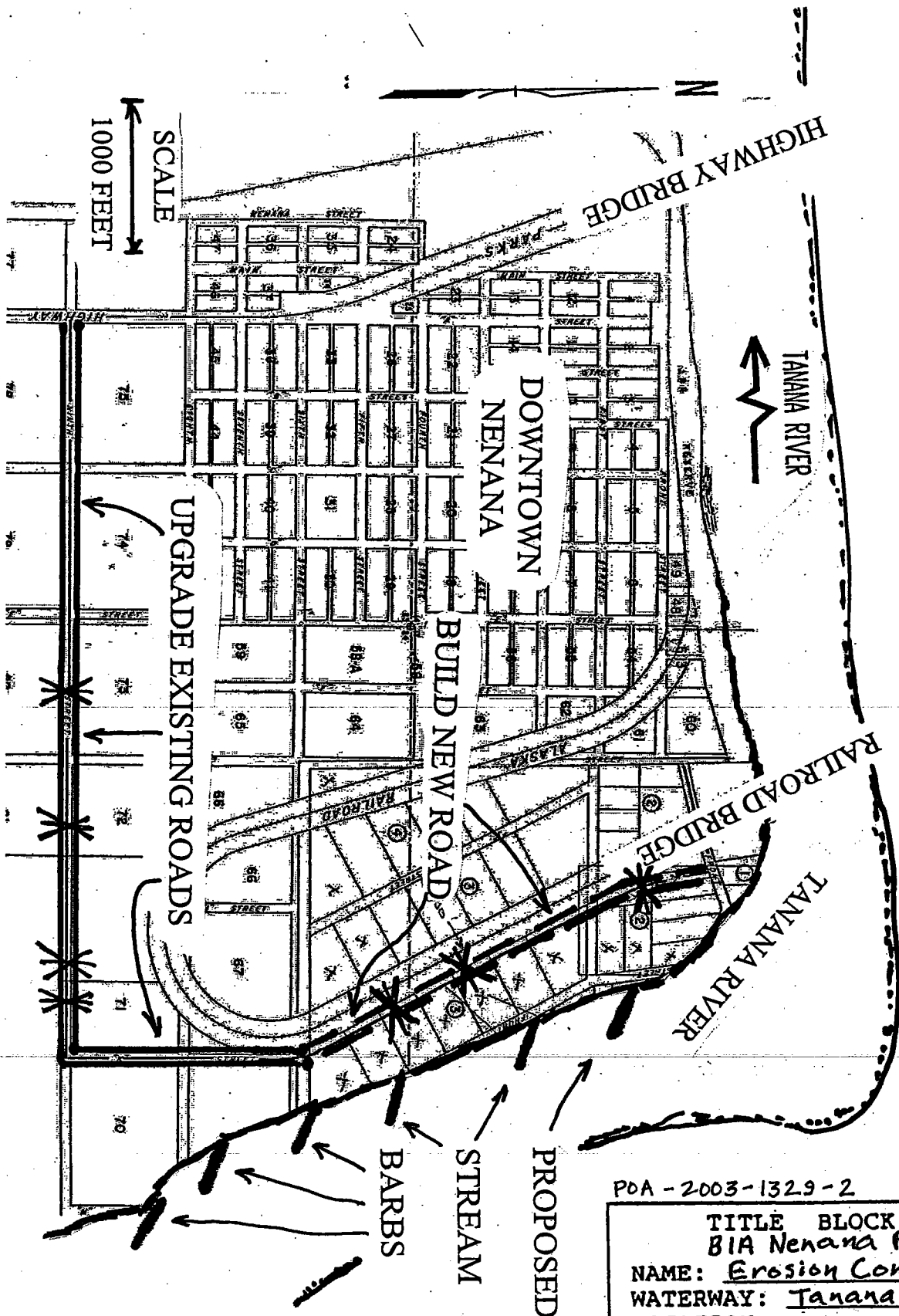


PROJECT LOCATION MAP

POA-2003-1329-2

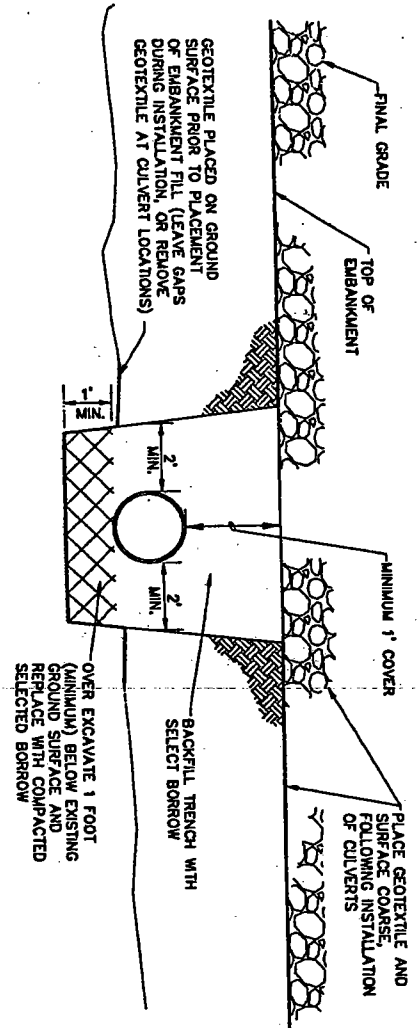
TITLE BLOCK
 BIA Nenana Road & River
 NAME: Erosion Control Proj
 WATERWAY: Tanana River
 LOCATION: - Sec 13, 23, 24
T4S-R8W FM
 Sheet 1 of 9 Date 6/2/04

X MARKS THE APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS OF CULVERTS
 PROPOSED TO DRAIN WATER ACROSS THE ROAD



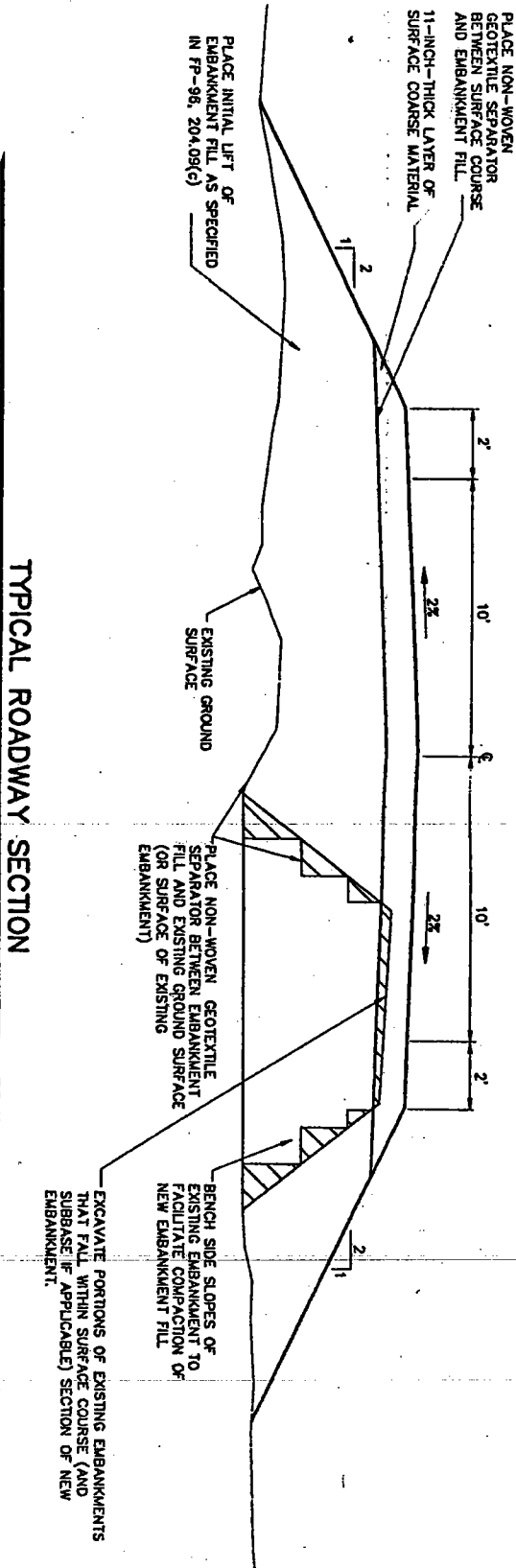
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CULVERT BEDDING DETAIL
TYPICAL

-N13-



TYPICAL ROADWAY SECTION

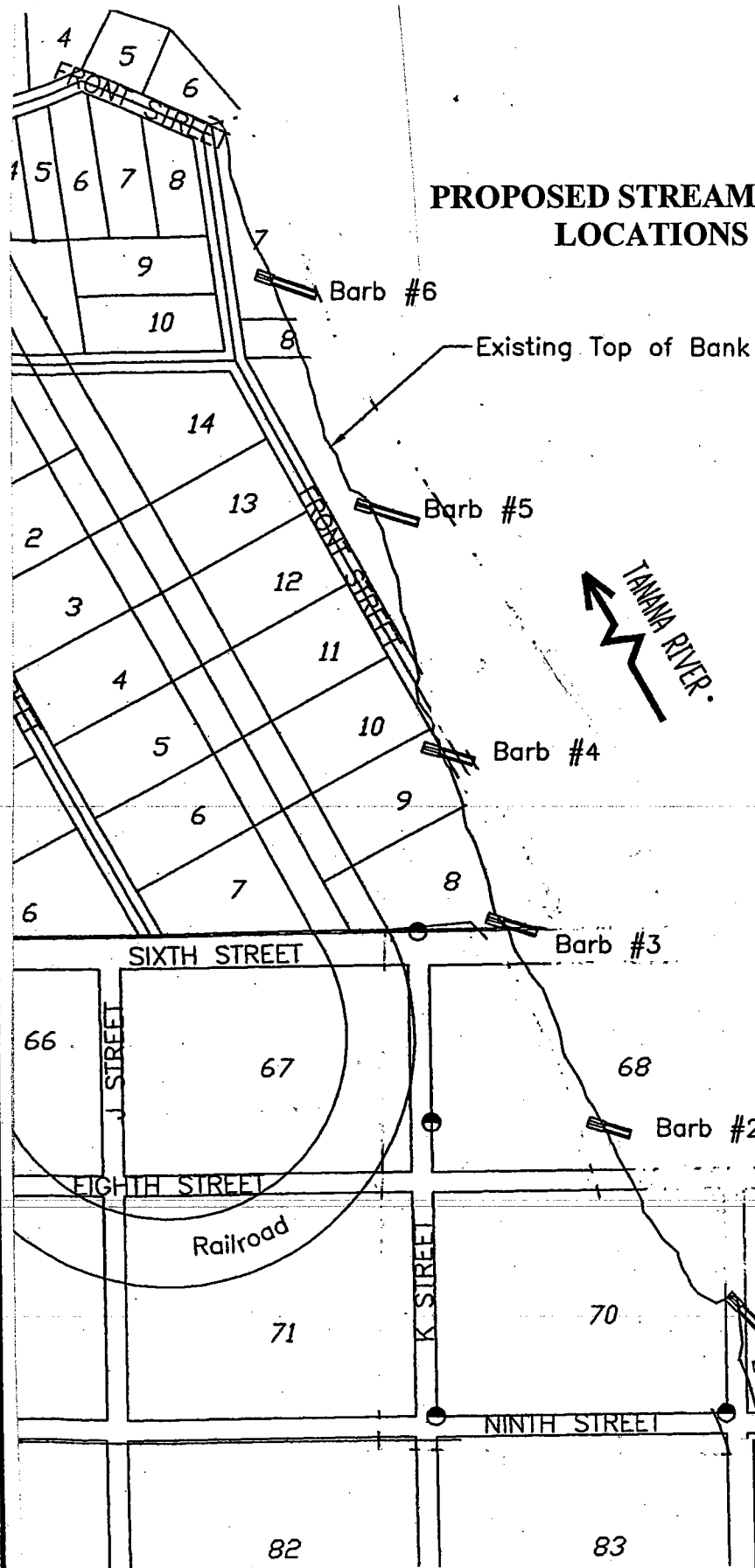
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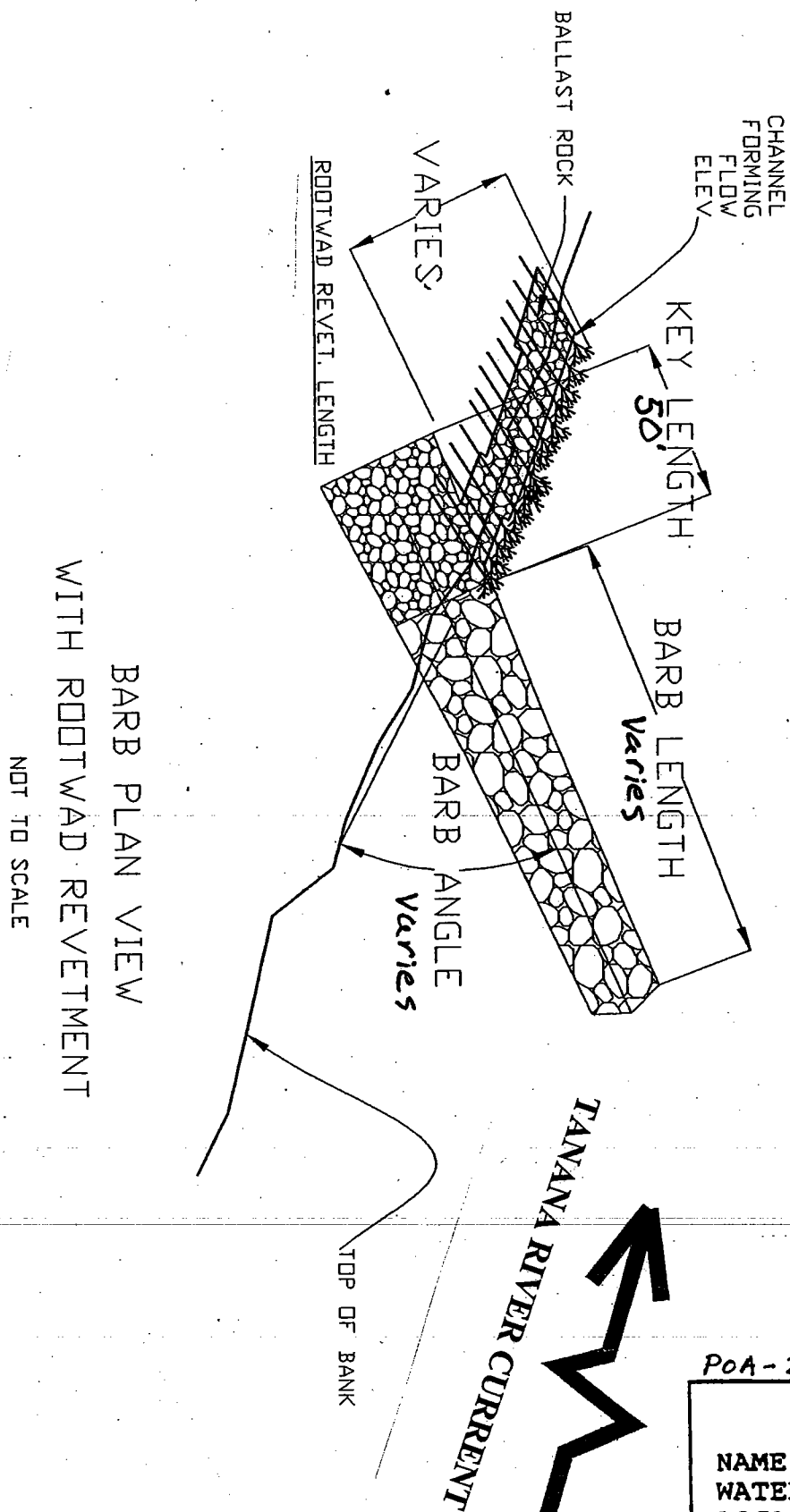
N

PROPOSED STREAM BARB LOCATIONS



POA-2003-1329-2

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BARB PLAN VIEW
WITH ROOTWAD REVELTMENT
NOT TO SCALE

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Sheet 5 of 9 Date 6/2/04

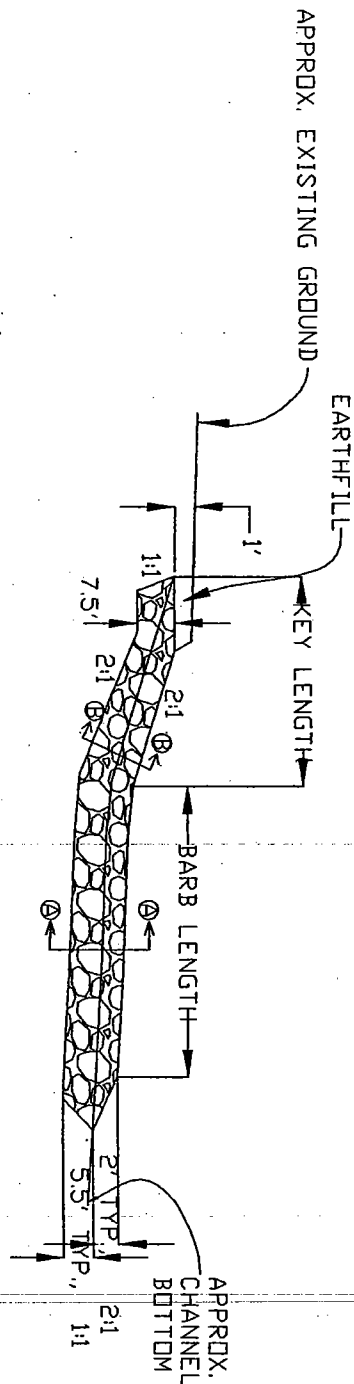
STREAM BARB INFORMATION TABLE

	<u>Barb #1</u>	<u>Barb #2</u>	<u>Barb #3</u>	<u>Barb #4</u>	<u>Barb #5</u>	<u>Barb #6</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Barb Length	80	80	100	100	140	140	
Barb Angle	25 deg	49 deg	50 deg	43 deg	48 deg	51 deg	
Water Depth at Barb End*	18 ft	21 ft	22 ft	21 ft	10 ft	11 ft	
Revetment Length	60 ft	60 ft	80 ft	80 ft	100 ft	100 ft	
Revetment Rock Required	35	35	47	47	59	59	282
Stream Barb Rock Required	471	471	589	589	824	824	3,768
Rock Loss (in barb construction)	202	281	386	353	95	122	1,439
Estimated Total Rock Required	708	787	1,022	989	978	1,005	5,489

note: all rock quantities are in cubic yards
 * During low water periods (winter)

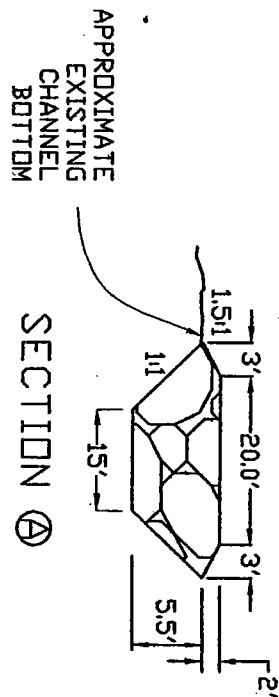
POA - 2003 - 1329-2

TITLE BLOCK
 BIA Nenana Road & River
 NAME: Erosion Control Proj
 WATERWAY: Tanana River
 LOCATION: - Sec 13, 23, 24
T45 - R8W FM
 Sheet 6 of 9 Date 6/2/04

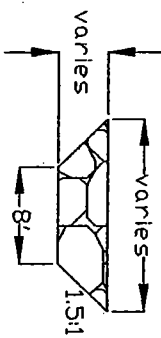


BARB PROFILE NOT TO SCALE

SLOPE TOP OF BARB TOWARDS CHANNEL
APPROXIMATELY 40:1 (2.5%)



SECTION A



SECTION B

POA-2003-1329-2

TITLE BLOCK
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T45-RBW FM
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TOE OF BANK
ROOTWAD ANGLE
TO PARALLEL
BARB ANGLE.



ROOTWAD REVELMENT ELEVATION
TO BE STAKED IN FIELD.

ROOTWADS

BALLAST ROCK
2.25 CY BALLAST ROCK/STEM

TOP OF BANK

4'



CROSS SECTION A-A
SHOWN ON SHEET 9 OF 9

LARGE WOOD DIMENSIONS
TREE DIAMETER = 12 INCHES
STEM LENGTH = 20 FEET
ROOTWAD DIA. = 6 FEET

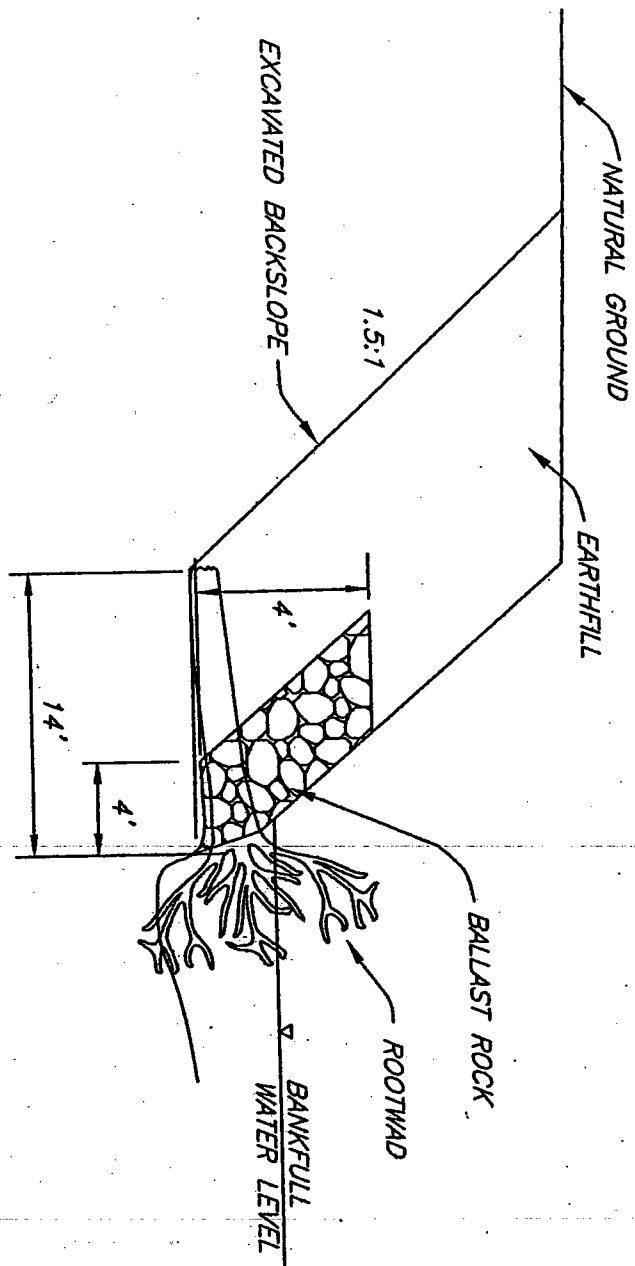
TANANA RIVER

PLAN VIEW

NOT TO SCALE

POA-2003-1329-2

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THS - R8W FM	
Sheet	8 of 9 Date 6/2/04



SECTION A-A

REFERENCED ON SHEET 8 OF 9

NOTES
TIP OF TRUNK IS TO BE AT
LEAST 1 FOOT LOWER THAN
THE CENTER OF THE ROOTWAD

NOT TO SCALE

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